

CLAIMS

1. A hinge device for pivoting a first member and a second member, in which a first coupling member having a shaft portion is provided in one of said first member and said second member, a second coupling member having a bearing hole portion for bearing said shaft portion is provided in the other member, said first coupling member and said second coupling member are coupled with each other through the shaft portion to be rotatable relative to each other so that the first member may be rotated through the shaft portion relative to the second member in any direction of right and left directions, and an excessive rotation preventing mechanism for preventing relative excessive rotation of the first member in any direction of the right and left directions relative to the second member is provided, the excessive rotation preventing mechanism is characterized in that a rotary member is provided to be rotatable in any direction of the right and left directions relative to said shaft portion, a first abutment retainer mechanism is provided in which the first coupling member or the second coupling member is abutted against and retained at the rotary member and the first coupling member or the second coupling member even when it rotates in any direction of the right and left directions so that the rotary member is rotated together in the right and left directions and a second abutment retainer mechanism for preventing, by abutment retention, the cooperative rotation even when the first coupling member or the second coupling member and the said rotary member are rotated in any direction of the right and left directions is provided in the first rotary member and the second coupling member or the first coupling member.

2. The hinge device according to claim 1, wherein a first abutment portion for being abutted against and retained at the respective right and left side portions of a first retainer portion provided in said rotary member when said first coupling member or said second coupling member is rotated in the respective right and left directions is provided in said first coupling member or said second coupling member, so that said first coupling member or said second coupling member and said rotary member may be rotated in any direction of the right and left directions together to form said first abutment retainer mechanism, a second abutment portion for being abutted against and retained at one side

portion of right and left side portions of a second retainer portion provided in said rotary member to prevent the cooperative rotation when said first coupling member or said second coupling member and said rotary member are rotated in any direction of the right and left directions by said first abutment retainer mechanism, and a third abutment portion for being abutted against and retained at a side portion on the opposite side to the side portion against which said second abutment portion is abutted and at which said second abutment portion is retained out of the right and left side portions of the second retainer portion provided in said rotary member to prevent the cooperative rotation when said first coupling member or said second coupling member and said rotary member are rotated together in any direction of the right and left directions is provided in said second coupling member or said first coupling member to form said second abutment retainer mechanism.

3. The hinge device according to claim 2, wherein a position where the first abutment portion provided in said first coupling member or said second coupling member is rotation-stopped by said first abutment retainer mechanism and said second abutment retainer mechanism when said first coupling member or said second coupling member is rotated in the left direction and a position where the first abutment portion provided in said first coupling member or said second coupling member is rotation-stopped by said first abutment retainer mechanism and said second abutment retainer mechanism when said first coupling member or said second coupling member is rotated in the right direction are identified with each other.

4. An electronic instrument in which the hinge device according to any one of claims 1 to 3 is provided in a pivot portion.